

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An adjustable-tone deer call device comprising:

a barrel assembly comprising an outside barrel and a small inside barrel, the outside barrel having an inlet end adapted to serve as a mouthpiece, having an outlet end for air, and having a cut-out opening between the inlet end and the outlet end thereof, and the small inside barrel having an open proximal end secured inside the outlet end of said outside barrel and a distal end for air to exit;

a reed mounted for vibration within said barrel assembly, said reed having a proximal free end toward the inlet end of said outside barrel, the reed generating a sound of a selected pitch when air passes through the small inside barrel;

a reed holder supporting the reed at its distal end within said barrel assembly, and having sidewalls and a bottom, together forming along with the reed, an elongated air flow channel;

a tone-adjusting slide assembly within said outside barrel and manually accessible through the cut-out opening,

said tone-adjusting slide assembly comprising a slider mounted for axial movement with respect to said reed and a reed contact band extending transversely and clampingly across said reed so as to clamp said reed at any of various selectable locations depending on the axial position of the tone-adjusting slide assembly, whereby the tone of the sound generated by the deer call can be adjusted without disassembling the deer call, wherein said reed contact band comprises an O-ring that extends around a groove in the slider.

2. (Currently amended) The deer call device of Claim 1 further comprising an extension hose adapted to be expanded and contracted ~~accordion-like~~ and having a first end and a second end, the first end being removably secured in communication with the distal end of the small inside barrel, whereby the sound may be adjusted by expanding or contracting the extension hose for desired resonance.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 1, wherein the slider is adapted for frictionally engaging a finger of a user.

6. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 5, wherein the slider has protuberances thereon.

7. (Original) The deer call device of Claim 1 further comprising a lanyard secured to the barrel assembly.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of deer, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~a~~ the deer call of Claim 1;

manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch;

temporarily covering the cut out opening; and

forcing air through the inlet end of the outside barrel, whereby the reed vibrates and produces a sound of the desired pitch.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the cut out opening is temporarily covered by wrapping the users hand around the barrel.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the steps of.  
temporarily uncovering the cut out opening;  
manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed

contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a second desired pitch;

temporarily covering the cut out opening; and

forcing air through the inlet end of the outside barrel, whereby the reed vibrates and produces a sound of the second desired pitch.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the desired pitch is that of a high-pitched fawn bleat, a doe bawl, a tending grunt, a trail grunt, or a rutting grunt.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of deer, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~a~~ the deer call device of Claim 1;

manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch; and

drawing air through the distal end of the barrel assembly, whereby the reed vibrates and produces a sound of the desired pitch.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds of deer, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~a~~ the deer call device of Claim 2;

manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a desired pitch;

adjusting the extension hose to provide a desired amount of resonance; temporarily covering the cut out opening; and

forcing air through the inlet end of the outside barrel, whereby the reed vibrates and produces a sound of the desired pitch.

14. (Original)        The method of Claim 13, further comprising the steps of.  
temporarily uncovering the cut out opening;  
manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed  
contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a  
second desired pitch;  
temporarily covering the cut out opening; and  
forcing air through the inlet end of the outside barrel, whereby the reed  
vibrates and produces a sound of the second desired pitch.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for a user to generate sounds similar to sounds  
of deer, comprising the steps of:  
providing ~~a~~ the deer call device of Claim 2;  
manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed  
contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a  
desired pitch;  
adjusting the extension hose to provide a desired amount of resonance; and drawing  
air through the distal end of the barrel assembly, whereby the reed vibrates  
and produces a sound of the desired pitch.

16. (Original)        The method of Claim 15, further comprising the steps of.  
manually moving the tone-adjusting slide assembly to the position of the reed  
contact band that adjusts the vibrating length of the reed to produce a sound of a  
second desired pitch; and  
drawing air through the distal end of the barrel assembly, whereby the reed  
vibrates and produces a sound of the desired pitch.